



.30

2154

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Michael Primm, et al.

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR A SET OF NETWORK APPLIANCES
WHICH CAN BE CONNECTED TO PROVIDE ENHANCED
COLLABORATION, SCALABILITY, AND RELIABILITY

Application No.: 10/057,563

Filed: January 25, 2002

Examiner: Meng Ai T. An

Group Art Unit: 2154

Atty. Docket No.: 1017-0012-US

RECEIVED

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SEP 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the undersigned brings the patents, publications, applications or other information identified in the attached:

- ☒ Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B or PTO/1449
☐ Other: n/a

to the Examiner's attention in the above-identified application. Citation of such information shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the information necessarily is, or corresponds to, prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made, other than as described below; or
3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

For each item of information listed that is not in the English language, the undersigned has provided a concise explanation of the relevance, such as through (i) an English language abstract, (ii) an English language equivalent application, (iii) reference to discussion in the application, or (iv) if cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as either First Class Mail or Express Mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on 9-27-04.

Elise K. Dougherty
Typed or Printed Name

E.K. Dougherty
Signature

counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

If the above-identified application is an original application filed on or after
May 29, 2000:

- ☐ each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

FEES DUE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

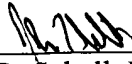
- ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application or within three months of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application. Therefore, no fee is required.
- ☒ before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits or before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Therefore, no fee is believed required.
- ☐ during the period specified in § 1.97(c). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ during the period specified in § 1.97(c). Accordingly, the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) is required and provided as shown on the attached Fee Transmittal.
- ☐ during the period specified in § 1.97(d). Accordingly, the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) is required and provided as shown on the attached Fee Transmittal. Additionally, each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Should any PTO fees be necessary for entry of this Information Disclosure Statement, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge Deposit Account 50-2469.

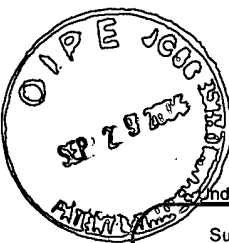
Respectfully submitted,

Date

9.29.04



John R. Schell, Reg. No. 50,776
Agent for Applicant(s)
TOLER, LARSON & ABEL, L.L.P.
5000 Plaza On The Lake, Suite 265
Austin, Texas 78746
(512) 327-5515 (phone)
(512) 327-5452 (fax)



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 14

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng A T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A	US- Re. 35,793	05-12-1998	Halpern	
	B	US- 4,349,879	09-14-1982	Peddie et al.	
	C	US- 4,568,934	02-04-1986	Allgood	
	D	US- 4,636,652	01-13-1987	Raes	
	E	US- 4,637,020	01-13-1987	Schinabeck	
	F	US- 4,650,347	03-17-1987	Shigemura et al.	
	G	US- 4,751,648	06-14-1988	Sears, III et al.	
	H	US- 5,043,807	08-27-1991	Rabii	
	I	US- 5,153,837	10-06-1992	Shaffer et al.	
	J	US- 5,157,732	10-20-1992	Ishii et al.	
	K	US- 5,216,623	06-01-1993	Barrett et al.	
	L	US- 5,382,943	01-17-1995	Tanaka	
	M	US- 5,404,136	04-04-1995	Marsden	
	N	US- 5,528,507	06-18-1996	McNamara et al.	
	O	US- 5,488,430	01-30-1996	Hong	
	P	US- 5,491,511	02-13-1996	Odle	
	Q	US- 5,508,941	04-16-1996	Leplingard et al.	
	R	US- 5,528,507	06-18-1996	McNamara et al.	
	S	US- 5,548,659	08-20-1996	Okamoto	

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	T	AU-0016673-A5	06-26-2000	Hackett-Jones et al.		
	U	AU-3855395-A1	06-06-1996	Di Pasquale et al.		
	V	AU-5601198-A1	07-03-1998	Fletcher et al.		
	W	CA-2300053-AA	02-18-1999	Flenniken et al.		
	X	CA-2310275-AA	06-03-1999	Ballantyne et al.		
	Y	CA-2328939-AA	09-23-1999	Gordon et al.		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2

of 14

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US- 5,561,476	10-01-1996	Kershaw et al.	
	BB	US- 5,572,195	11-05-1996	Heller et al.	
	CC	US- 5,586,202	12-17-1996	Ohki et al.	
	DD	US- 5,588,067	12-24-1996	Peterson et al.	
	EE	US- 5,589,764	12-31-1996	Lee	
	FF	US- 5,602,585	02-11-1997	Dickinson et al.	
	GG	US- 5,664,202	09-02-1997	Chen et al.	
	HH	US- 5,715,160	02-03-1998	Plotke	
	II	US- 5,731,832	03-24-1998	Ng	
	JJ	US- 5,768,430	06-16-1998	Takashima et al.	
	KK	US- 5,805,458	09-08-1998	McNamara et al.	
	LL	US- 5,818,725	10-06-1998	McNamara et al.	
	MM	US- 5,937,092	09-10-1999	Wootton et al.	
	NN	US- 5,937,097	08-10-1999	Lennon	
	OO	US- 5,963,457	10-05-1999	Kanoi et al.	
	PP	US- 5,968,116	10-19-1999	Day, II et al.	
	QQ	US- 5,974,237	10-26-1999	Shurmer et al.	
	RR	US- 5,978,594	11-02-1999	Bonnell et al.	
	SS	US- 5,978,912	11-02-1999	Rakavy et al.	

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

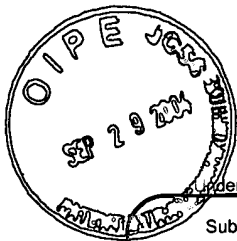
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	TT	CN-1294350-A	05-09-2001	Li et al.		
	UU	CN-87100353-A	09-28-1988	Yunde et al.		
	VV	EP-0444997-B1	02-19-1991	Millereau et al.		
	WW	EP-0738065-A1	03-22-1996	Peters et al.		
	XX	EP-0744112-A1	11-27-1996	Odle et al.		
	YY	EP-0859489-A2	01-16-1998	Miyachi		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 14

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Miachel R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A3	US- 5,987,614	11-16-1999	Mitchell et al.	
	B3	US- 6,058,434	05-02-2000	Wilt et al.	
	C3	US- 6,081,606	06-27-2000	Hansen et al.	
	D3	US- 6,104,755	08-15-2000	Ohara	
	E3	US- 6,085,243	07-04-2000	Fletcher et al.	
	F3	US- 6,105,061	08-15-2000	Nakai	
	G3	US- 6,122,603	08-19-2000	Budike, Jr.	
	H3	US- 6,125,145	08-26-2000	Koyanagi et al.	
	I3	US- 6,138,078	10-24-2000	Canada et al.	
	J3	US- 6,144,770	11-07-2000	Lennon	
	K3	US- 6,160,584	12-12-2000	Yanagita	
	L3	US- 6,173,323 B1	01-09-2001	Moghe	
	M3	US- 6,175,927 B1	01-16-2001	Cromer et al.	
	N3	US- 6,177,884 B1	01-23-2001	Hunt et al.	
	O3	US- 6,195,018 B1	02-27-2001	Ragle et al.	
	P3	US- 6,215,404 B1	04-10-2001	Morales	
	Q3	US- 6,236,332 B1	04-22-2001	Conkright et al.	
	R3	US- 6,246,780 B1	06-12-2001	Sato	
	S3	US- 6,298,144 B1	10-02-2001	Pucker, II et al.	

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

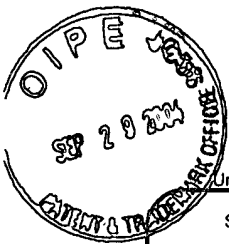
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	T3	EP-0917034-A1	10-16-1998	Kastner		
	U3	EP-0917034-B1	10-16-1998	Kastner		
	V3	EP-0956680-A1	11-17-1999	Fletcher et al.		
	W3	EP-0963076-A3	05-18-1999	Barker et al.		
	X3	EP-0964551-A1	06-04-1999	Edison et al.		
	Y3	EP-0977112-A2	07-22-1999	Ryu		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

4

of

14

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A4	US- 6,298,144 B1	10-02-2001	Pucker, II et al.	
	B4	US- 6,311,105 B1	10-30-2001	Budike, Jr.	
	C4	US- 6,324,644 B1	11-27-2001	Rakavy et al.	
	D4	US- 6,329,792 B1	12-11-2001	Dunn et al.	
	E4	US- 6,338,094 B1	01-08-2002	Scott et al.	
	F4	US- 6,373,840 B1	04-16-2002	Chen	
	G4	US- 6,381,700 B1	04-30-2002	Yoshida	
	H4	US- 6,400,103 B1	06-04-2002	Adamson	
	I4	US- 6,400,996 B1	06-04-2002	Hoffberg et al.	
	J4	US- 6,404,348 B1	06-11-2002	Wilfong	
	K4	US- 6,405,216 B1	06-11-2002	Minnaert et al.	
	L4	US- 2002/0003575 A1	01-10-2002	Marchese	
	M4	US- 2001/0005894 A1	06-28-2001	Fukui	
	N4	US- 2001/0052006 A1	12-13-2001	Barker et al.	
	O4	US- 2001/0023258 A1	02-21-2002	Elwahab et al.	
	P4	US- 2002/0041603 A1	04-11-2002	Kato	
	Q4	US- 2002/0043969 A1	04-18-2002	Duncan et al.	
	R4	US- 2001/0047213 A1	11-29-2001	Sepe, Jr.	
	S4	US- 2001/0047410 A1	11-29-2001	Defosse	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

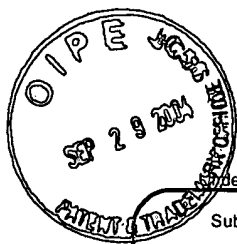
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	T4	EP-0978780-A1	08-06-1998	Kilkinis		
	U4	EP-0992100-A2	04-12-2000	Dunn et al.		
	V4	EP-1002268-A1	05-24-2000	Pinnow et al.		
	W4	EP-1014622-A2	12-20-1999	Mellquist et al.		
	X4	EP-1032884-A1	09-06-2000	Wilt et al.		
	Y4	EP-1115264-A2	12-22-2000	Kung et al.		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 5

of 14

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A5	US- 2001/0055965 A1	12-27-2001	Delp et al.	
	B5	US- 2002/0071031 A1	06-13-2002	Lord et al.	
	C5	US- 2002/0072868 A1	06-13-2002	Bartone et al.	
	D5	US- 2002/0083378 A1	06-27-2002	Nickels	
	E5	US-			
	F5	US-			
	G5	US-			
	H5	US-			
	I5	US-			
	J5	US-			
	K5	US-			
	L5	US-			
	M5	US-			
	N5	US-			
	O5	US-			
	P5	US-			
	Q5	US-			
	R5	US-			
	S5	US-			

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	T5	EP-1124301-A2	12-22-2000	Fukui		
	U5	EP-1142289-A1	10-10-2001	Hackett-Jones et al.		
	V5	GB-2335124-A	09-08-1999	Fletcher et al.		
	W5	GB-2343036-A	04-26-2000	Day, II et al.		
	X5	GB-2344718-A	06-14-2000	Hackett-Jones et al.		
	Y5	GB-2351205-A	12-20-2000	Hitoshi Goto		

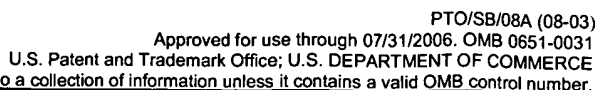
Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

7

of

14

Application Number

10/057.563

Filing Date

January 25, 2002

First Named Inventor

Michael R. Primm

Art Unit

2154

Examiner Name

Mengq Al T. An

Attorney Docket Number

1017-0012-US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

RECEIVED
SEP 30 2004
Technology Center 2160

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	T7	JP-11164035-A2	06-18-1999	Kazuyuki		
	U7	JP-2000092092-A2	03-31-2000	Koichi		
	V7	JP-2000134606-A2	05-12-2000	Mutsuo		
	W7	JP-2000151606-A2	05-30-2000	Shinichi		
	X7	JP-2000278773-A2	10-06-2000	Seiichi et al.		
	Y7	JP-3099398-A2	04-24-1991	Hiroshi et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	8
-------	---

of	14
----	----

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ ~ Number ⁴ ~ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	T8	JP-6105376-A2	04-15-1994	Keizo et al.		
	U8	JP-6119581-A2	04-28-1994	Yoshikazu		
	V8	JP-8307541-A2	11-22-1996	Norimi et al.		
	W8	TW-0443058-B	06-23-2001	Tzou et al.		
	X8	TW-0448349-B	08-01-2001	Ryu		
	Y8	WO-95/21506	08-10-1995	Odle et al.		

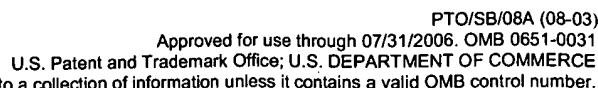
Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

**Complete if Known**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	9
-------	---

of 14

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	T9	WO-96/15615	05-23-1996	Di Pasquale et al.		
	U9	WO-97/30879	08-28-1997	Greber et al.		
	V9	WO-98/01838	01-15-1998	Sullivan et al.		
	W9	WO-98/26541	06-18-1998	Fletcher et al.		
	X9	WO-99/08183	02-18-1999	Pinnow et al.		
	Y9	WO-99/27456	06-03-1999	Wilt et al.		

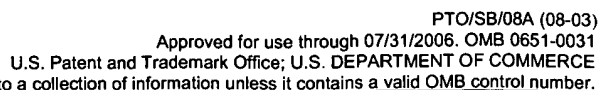
**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to enter office. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057.563
--------------------	------------

Filing Date	January 25, 2002
-------------	------------------

First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
----------------------	------------------

Art Unit	2154
----------	------

Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
---------------	---------------

Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US
------------------------	--------------

Sheet	10	of	14
-------	----	----	----

Technology Center 2100

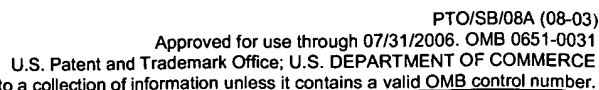
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	Footnote ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	10	WO-99/45445	09-10-1999	Delp et al.		
	11	WO-00/39724	07-06-2000	Walker et al.		
	12	WO-00/54557	09-14-2000	Adamson et al.		
	13	WO-00/35177	06-15-2000	Hackett-Jones et al.		
	14	WO-00/73866-A1	12-07-2000	Santos et al.		
	15	WO-00/79500-A1	12-28-2000	Peters et al.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	11	of	14
-------	----	----	----

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	16	WO-00/79500-C2	06-13-2002	Peters		
	17	WO-01/01366-A2	01-04-2001	Johnson et al.		
	18	WO-01/57477-C1	11-22-2001	Dierckx		
	19	WO-01/69405-C1	03-21-2002	Marchese		
	20	WO-01/08396	02-01-2001	Elliott et al.		
	21	WO-01/27763-A1	04-19-2001	Simerly et al.		

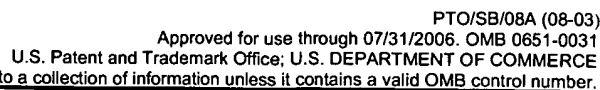
Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	12
-------	----

of	14
----	----

Application Number	10/057,563
Filing Date	January 25, 2002
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
Art Unit	2154
Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-IIS

~~SEP 30~~ 2004

Technology Center 2100

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	22	WO-01/57631-A1	08-09-2001	Ishida et al.		
	23	WO-01/61665-A2	08-23-2001	Marsland et al.		
	24	WO-01/93042-A2	12-06-2001	Defosse'		
	25	WO-01/69405-A1	09-20-2001	Marchese		
	26	WO-01/79935-A1	10-25-2001	Sanstrom et al.		
	27	WO-01/82028-A2	11-01-2001	Duncan et al.		

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

 Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	13
-------	----

of	14
----	----

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/057.563
--------------------	------------

Filing Date	January 25, 2002
-------------	------------------

First Named Inventor	Michael R. Primm
----------------------	------------------

Art Unit	2154
----------	------

Examiner Name	Meng Ai T. An
---------------	---------------

Attorney Docket Number	1017-0012-US
------------------------	--------------

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

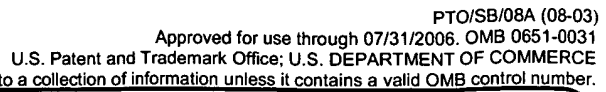
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	28	WO-01/93508-A1	12-06-2001	Bae		
	29	WO-01/97907-A2	12-27-2001	Thompson		
	30	WO-01/99402-A2	12-27-2001	Gelsey		
	31	WO-02/01877-A1	01-03-2002	Jackson		
	32	WO-02/11391-A2	02-07-2002	Anton et al.		
	33	WO-02/37280-A2	05-10-2002	Faraldo II		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Technology Center 2100

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.